

**New Zealand  
Institute of Architects  
Incorporated**



Date 25 July 2013

To Secretariat  
Commerce Committee  
Parliament Buildings  
Wellington 6060

Re **SUBMISSION ON CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS AMENDMENT BILL (BILL NO. 97-1) (AMENDMENT BILL) – NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS INC (NZIA)**

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find attached for your consideration the submission from the New Zealand Institute of Architects Inc. (NZIA) on the *Construction Contracts Amendment Bill 2013 (the Amendment Bill)*. As noted in the submission the NZIA wishes to appear before the Select Committee.

NZIA members are involved in providing a range of design consultancy services to Government and private clients. The services provided by our Members often includes design and documentation, contract administration, observation, planning and urban design, procurement, seismic design and strengthening, fire engineering and project management.

Given the significance of the Amendment Bill and the proposed changes relevant to Architects, the NZIA is keen to ensure that the Committee understands the key issues as they relate to Architects. The NZIA submission reflects the experiences and insights of our Members, our Committees (e.g. Joint Contracts Committee – NZIA and Master Builders'; Agreement for Architectural Services Committee), continuing professional development programme and advice included in Practice Notes issued to Members.

The NZIA supports the stated intent of the Amendment Bill. However such support is subject to certain changes being made to give effect to the stated purpose of the Amendment Bill and for it to be practicable to administer. Given the challenges of defining '*construction work*' and the role of Architects and Engineers in the building and construction industry, the one-size fits all approach of the Amendment Bill is problematic and may not achieve the full extent of the benefits proposed.

We are keen to assist the Committee in developing solutions that work for 'Architects' and are consistent with the aims of the Amendment Bill. We have also discussed the Amendment Bill with *The Association of Consulting Engineers New Zealand Inc. (ACENZ)* and are in general agreement on all matters of substance in our submissions.

The NZIA trusts that the comments and recommendations in the submission are constructive and we look forward to the opportunity of answering any questions the Committee may have.

Yours sincerely,

Teena Hale Pennington  
**Chief Executive**